

Darnell, Caroleen Cosand, Jean Fenn, Carol Besser, Londa Carter, Denise Dugger, Cynthia Freymueller, Rachael Emery, Judy Lowrie, Marge Ruffalo, Laura Chapman, Luis Ibarra, Chris Richards, and Melody Davidsmeier.

Being recognized for their work in technology education are Jim Roller, Steve Bailey, Cindy Robinson, Ruthetta Brandt, Leandra Pearson, Kathy Gilbert, Jim Evans, Noelle Kreider, Alexis Carlson, John Patten, Bob Watson, and Linda Jungwirth. Those praised for their work on the focus on the future include Judith Pratt, Michelle Beutler, Dr. Bill Clark, Carrie Childress, Jeff Drozd, Patricia Merriam, Skip Brown, Laura Brundige, Jerry Bennett, Geri Kubanek-York, Jere Lloyd, Leslie Rodden, and Pam Stockard.

In addition, the following individuals will be recognized for their work with school safety: Norma Ashworth, Robert Martinez, David Mann, Beth Henry, Sally Foster, Marc Divine, Cathy Magana, Tim Kellegan, Tina Maeda, Jimmie Jimenez, Rich Laabs, Michael Vance, Debbie Fairfax, and Joe Kaempher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and our colleagues in recognizing the fine work of these individuals. Barry Pulliam, the County Superintendent of Schools is also worthy of praise for his outstanding leadership on the Community Coalition project. Efforts to educate our students and prepare them for the future are certainly worthy of our recognition and it is only fitting that the House pay tribute to these fine citizens today.

REMEMBERING REV. CLAUDE
HEITHAUS—"A CIVIL RIGHTS
TRAILBLAZER"

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker. Trailblazers are people who take chances and stand up for what's right, even when the status quo tells them the time is "not right". Trailblazers change the course of history, as Rev. Claude Heithaus did at Saint Louis University on a day in February 1944 when he delivered a sermon that led to integration in higher education in the city of St. Louis. As a proud alumnus of Saint Louis University and beneficiary of Rev. Heithaus' courageous actions, I commend to our colleagues the April 14, 1998 St. Louis Post Dispatch article, titled "Priest led the fight for university integration", which tells of the great sacrifice Rev. Heithaus made for the benefit of racial harmony. It is my hope that our colleagues in the struggle for racial equality and justice will find strength in this story.

PRIEST LED FIGHT FOR UNIVERSITY
INTEGRATION
(By Paul Shore)

St. Louis is rich in history, and we honor those who have contributed to its history in a number of ways: by naming parks, streets, hospitals and schools after them, or by keeping their memory alive by dedicating a civic project or program to them. Yet an important figure in the history of our city continues to go largely unacknowledged. His name was Claude Heithaus, and this spring marks the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Before Brown vs. the Board of Education had made its way to the Supreme Court in

1954, before the Archdiocese of St. Louis had integrated its schools, when St. Louis was an entirely segregated city, the Rev. Claude Heithaus, a Jesuit priest, took it upon himself to preach a sermon in the St. Frances Xavier (College) Church of St. Louis University, where he was a faculty member. In this sermon, which he delivered on the morning of Feb. 11, 1944, he called upon his listeners to repudiate racism and welcome people of color to the university. His words were uncompromising as he called upon the community to face its prejudice and hypocrisy:

"Do you want us to slam our doors in the face of Catholics, because their complexion happens to be brown or black? It (the claim that white students would refuse to attend classes with people of color) is a lie. I see that you repudiate it with indignation. You scorn it all the more because some of the very people who disseminate this lie have themselves sent their sons to Harvard and Yale, where they were glad to sit in the same classrooms with Negroes."

Heithaus' call to justice, which he couched in religious as well as moral terms, did not go unnoticed. Within the year, St. Louis University became the first institution of higher learning in a former slave state to admit African-Americans, and the city of St. Louis thereby became the scene of one of the most important breakthroughs in racial integration.

Heithaus soon departed from St. Louis. Because he had preached the sermon without the permission or support of his Jesuit superior and had continued to call attention to the problems of racism, he was banished, first to Kansas and then to Milwaukee.

Late in life he was allowed to return to the St. Louis area, where he lived quietly, never speaking publicly again on the topic of race relations. He died in 1976.

In the story of Heithaus' courage and determination there is much that St. Louis can be proud of. He risked—and lost—a great deal in order to further a process of acceptance, toleration and integration that remains unfinished in our community.

Although the first part of his story is fairly well known, the price he paid is less well known, and neither the university nor the community has ever formally recognized his accomplishments and sacrifices.

After his speech and his subsequent refusal to drop the issue of race relations, his career as a teacher was severely curtailed. A valuable collection of antiquities that he had acquired on his travels was lost or destroyed. His work as a trainer of young journalists (a quarter century earlier he had founded St. Louis University's University News) came to an end as well.

Even after the policies that Heithaus had called for became an accepted reality, he was never publicly thanked or even acknowledged by this community for his role in their realization, although the Father General of the Jesuits and the French government eventually recognized his accomplishments.

While much of the responsibility for this acknowledgement lies with the school where I work, St. Louis University, some of it ultimately lies with the community that also benefited from his vision and persistence. His commitment and his ideals should not be forgotten.

I call upon St. Louis University to mark the hundredth anniversary of Claude Heithaus' birth with some gesture worthy of his beliefs. I also call upon the greater St. Louis community to reflect on the actions of someone, who, when it was still politically incorrect, sought to widen educational opportunities for people of color. Surely there is a place in our city for some remembrance of him, a way to call attention to his ideals.

Heithaus is of course not the only unsung hero of St. Louis history. In the past 200

years, many men and women in this community have stood for worthy but unpopular causes and paid high prices for their beliefs. We should give each one recognition, not only out of respect for what they did, but also for what their lives can offer all of us as models of courage and vision. And by honoring Claude Heithaus, we would be making a very good start.

IN HONOR OF MISSION SAN JOSE
ROTARY CLUB FOR ITS 15 YEARS
OF SERVICE TO THE 13TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Mission San Jose Rotary Club for its extensive contributions to the quality of life in the Fremont community.

Over the last fifteen years, Mission San Jose Rotary has been actively involved in the community through more than 45 projects benefiting the Mission San Jose, Serra Center, Ardenwood Park, Fremont Senior Center, Mission San Jose Museum, and many other worthy recipients.

In addition, in 1986 Mission San Jose Rotary became one of the first clubs to champion the admission of women members, well before Rotary International recognized full participation by females. The club has sponsored two new Rotary clubs, sponsored four foreign exchange students, and counts more than 60% Paul Harris Fellows among its members. Mission San Jose Rotary has also contributed substantially to the Polio Plus Campaign and the Mission San Jose restoration.

I also commend Mission San Jose Rotary for having prepared and served many thousands of meals at the Centerville Free Dining Room, and for their internationally acclaimed chili and famous linguica burgers, which have raised nearly \$300,000 for charity.

Throughout its existence, Mission San Jose Rotary has been acclaimed many times for its excellent service. On May 1, 1998, the Mission San Jose Rotary Club will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of its founding, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the dedicated efforts that have produced so many civic achievements. Congratulations, and I look forward to another fifteen years of exceptional service.

IN HONOR OF LT. COL. MICHAEL
PRUSAK

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lt. Col. Michael Prusak, Director of Logistics for the Sacramento Air Logistics Center, McClellan Air Force Base, California. He is a Command Navigator, with more than 2,500 hours in the FB-111 and the T-43 aircraft. Lieutenant Colonel Prusak will be retiring on 1 August 1998, after a distinguished career highlighted by many challenging assignments.